

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier versions and listings.

1. - 22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus which is connected to an E-mail server via a network, said communication apparatus comprising:

- a receiving unit, adapted to receive an E-mail which is to be sent to said communication apparatus, stored in a mail box provided on [[an]] said E-mail server;
- a first obtaining unit, adapted to obtain attribute information of the E-mail stored in the mail box;
- “ a discriminating unit, adapted to discriminate whether or not to receive the E-mail before said receiving unit receives the E-mail, based on the attribute information obtained by said first obtaining unit; [[and]]
in a case where said discriminating unit discriminated to receive the E-mail, said receiving unit receives the E-mail that said discriminating unit discriminated to receive; and
- a controlling unit, adapted to, in a case where said discriminating unit discriminated not to receive the E-mail, send to the E-mail server an instruction for deleting from the mail box the E-mail that said discriminating unit discriminated not to receive,

wherein, in a case where a plurality of E-mails are stored in the mail

box, after said controlling unit sends to said E-mail server an instruction for deleting the E-mail that said discriminating unit discriminated not to receive, or after said receiving unit receives the E-mail that said discriminating unit discriminated to receive, said discriminating unit further discriminates whether or not to receive an E-mail other than the E-mail that said discriminating unit discriminated not to receive.

24. and 25. (Canceled).

26. (Previously Presented) A communication apparatus according to Claim 23, wherein said first obtaining unit obtains size information of the E-mail as the attribute information, and said discriminating unit discriminates whether or not to receive the E-mail based on the obtained size information.

27. (Previously Presented) A communication apparatus according to Claim 26, further comprising a second obtaining unit, adapted to obtain maximum value information of a size of the E-mail capable of being received by said receiving unit, wherein said discriminating unit discriminates whether or not to receive the E-mail by comparing the size information of the E-mail obtained by said first obtaining unit with the maximum value information obtained by said second obtaining unit.

28. (Previously Presented) A communication apparatus according to Claim 23, wherein said controlling unit receives only header information of the E-mail that

said discriminating unit discriminates not to receive, and stores, as communication history information, information obtained from the received header information.

29. (Previously Presented) A communication apparatus according to Claim 26, wherein said controlling unit stores as communication history information the size information of the E-mail that said discriminating unit discriminates not to receive.

30. (Previously Presented) A communication apparatus according to Claim 23, wherein said controlling unit stores as communication history information a fact that the reception by said receiving unit to the E-mail that said discriminating unit discriminates not to receive is stopped.

31. (Previously Presented) A communication apparatus according to Claim 23, wherein said controlling unit stores as communication history information a fact that the E-mail that said discriminating unit discriminates not to receive is deleted.

32. (Previously Presented) A communication apparatus according to Claim 23, wherein, in a case where said receiving unit receives the E-mail that said discriminating unit discriminates to receive, said controlling unit stores as communication history information the information obtained from the E-mail received by said receiving unit.

33. (Previously Presented) A communication apparatus according to

Claim 23, further comprising an output unit, adapted to, in a case where said receiving unit receives the E-mail that said discriminating unit discriminates to receive, output the E-mail received by said receiving unit.

34. (Currently Amended) A communication method for a communication apparatus connected to an E-mail server via a network, said method comprising:

a receiving step, of receiving an E-mail which is to be sent to said communication apparatus, stored in a mail box provided on the E-mail server;

a first obtaining step, of obtaining attribute information of the E-mail stored in the mail box;

a discriminating step, of discriminating whether or not to receive the E-mail before the E-mail is received in said receiving step, based on the attribute information obtained in said first obtaining step; [[and]]

in a case where said discriminating step discriminated to receive the E-mail, the E-mail that said discriminating step discriminated to receive is received in said receiving step; and

a controlling step, of, in a case where said discriminating step discriminated not to receive the E-mail, sending to the E-mail server an instruction for deleting from the mail box the E-mail that said discriminating step discriminated not to receive,

wherein, in a case where a plurality of E-mails are stored in the mail box, after said controlling step sends to said E-mail server an instruction for deleting the E-

mail that said discriminating step discriminated not to receive, or after the E-mail that said discriminating step discriminated to receive is received in said receiving step, said discriminating step includes further discriminating whether or not to receive an E-mail other than the E-mail that said discriminating step discriminated not to receive.

35. and 36. (Canceled).

37. (Previously Presented) A communication method according to Claim 34, wherein said first obtaining step includes obtaining size information of the E-mail as the attribute information, and said discriminating step includes discriminating whether or not to receive the E-mail based on the obtained size information.

38. (Previously Presented) A communication method according to Claim 37, further comprising a second obtaining step, of obtaining maximum value information of a size of the E-mail capable of being received in said receiving step, wherein said discriminating step discriminates whether or not to receive the E-mail by comparing the size information of the E-mail obtained in said first obtaining step with the maximum value information obtained in said second obtaining step.

39. (Currently Amended) A communication method according to Claim 34, wherein said controlling step receives only header information of the E-mail that said discriminating step discriminates not to receive, and stores as communication history information [[the]] information obtained from the received header information.

40. (Previously Presented) A communication method according to Claim 37, wherein said controlling step includes storing as communication history information the size information of the E-mail that said discriminating step discriminates not to receive.

41. (Previously Presented) A communication method according to Claim 34, wherein said controlling step includes storing as communication history information a fact that the reception in said receiving step to the E-mail that said discriminating step discriminates not to receive is stopped.

42. (Previously Presented) A communication method according to Claim 34, wherein said controlling step includes storing as communication history information a fact that the E-mail that said discriminating step discriminates not to receive is deleted.

43. (Previously Presented) A communication method according to Claim 34, wherein, in a case where said receiving step receives the E-mail that said discriminating step discriminates to receive, said controlling step stores as communication history information the information obtained from the E-mail received in said receiving step.

44. (Previously Presented) A communication method according to Claim 34, further comprising an output step of, in a case where said receiving step receives

the E-mail that said discriminating step discriminates to receive, outputting the E-mail received in said receiving step.

45. (Currently Amended) A program for causing a computer to execute a communication method applied to a communication apparatus connected to an E-mail server via a network, said program comprising:

a receiving module, of receiving an E-mail which is to be sent to said communication apparatus, stored in a mail box provided on the E-mail server;

a first obtaining module, of obtaining attribute information of the E-mail stored in the mail box;

a discriminating module, of discriminating whether or not to receive the E-mail before the E-mail is received by said receiving module, based on the attribute information obtained by said first obtaining module; [[and]]

in a case where said discriminating module discriminated to receive the E-mail, the E-mail that said discriminating module discriminated to receive is received by said receiving module; and

a controlling module, of, in a case where said discriminating module discriminated not to receive the E-mail, sending to the E-mail server an instruction for deleting from the mail box the E-mail that said discriminating module discriminated not to receive;

wherein, in a case where a plurality of E-mails are stored in the mail box, after said controlling module sends to said E-mail server an instruction for deleting the E-mail that said discriminating module discriminated not to receive, or after the E-mail

that said discriminating module discriminated to receive is received by said receiving module, said discriminating module further discriminates whether or not to receive an E-mail other than the E-mail that said discriminating module discriminated not to receive.

46. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium which stores a program for causing a computer to execute a communication method applied to a communication apparatus connected to an E-mail server via a network, said program comprising:

a receiving module, of receiving an E-mail which is to be sent to said communication apparatus, stored in a mail box provided on the E-mail server;

a first obtaining module, of obtaining attribute information of the E-mail stored in the mail box;

a discriminating module, of discriminating whether or not to receive the E-mail before the E-mail is received by said receiving module, based on the attribute information obtained by said first obtaining module; [[and]]

in a case where said discriminating module discriminated to receive the E-mail, the E-mail that said discriminating module discriminated to receive is received by said receiving module; and

a controlling module, of, in a case where said discriminating module discriminated not to receive the E-mail, sending to the E-mail server an instruction for deleting from the mail box the E-mail that said discriminating module discriminated not to receive,

wherein, in a case where a plurality of E-mails are stored in the mail

box, after said controlling module sends to said E-mail server an instruction for deleting the E-mail that said discriminating module discriminated not to receive, or after the E-mail that said discriminating module discriminated to receive is received by said receiving module, said discriminating module further discriminates whether or not to receive an E-mail other than the E-mail that said discriminating module discriminated not to receive.

47. (New) A communication apparatus according to Claim 23, wherein, said controlling unit sends to said E-mail server an instruction for deleting from the mail box the E-mail that said discriminating unit discriminated to receive, after said receiving unit receives the E-mail that said discriminating unit discriminated to receive.

48. (New) A communication method according to Claim 34, wherein, said controlling step includes sending to said E-mail server an instruction for deleting from the mail box the E-mail that said discriminating step discriminated to receive, after the E-mail that said discriminating unit discriminated to receive is received in said receiving step.